

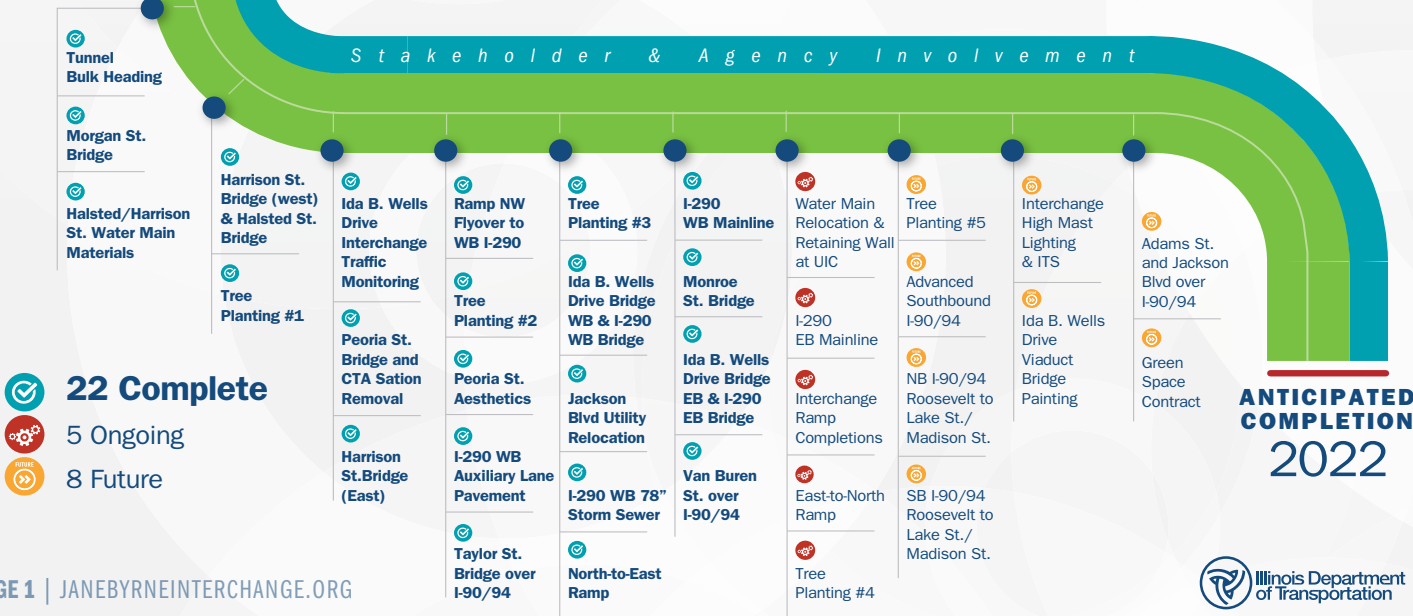
JANE BYRNE PROJECT CELEBRATES MAJOR MILESTONES

Construction to rebuild the Jane Byrne Interchange began in late 2013. Since then, **22** of the **35** project components have been completed, with **3** more set to finish this Fall.



Over the last six years of construction, many challenges have surfaced that have caused the project to last longer than anticipated - unknown conditions below ground, such as extensive active and abandoned utilities and old foundations, weather conditions, and reducing the flexibility for construction work on weekends that coincide with major events happening in downtown Chicago. Maintaining the 400,000 plus vehicles that travel through the interchange on a daily basis is a critical consideration while reconstructing a larger, brand new interchange in the exact spot as the old infrastructure.

Despite the difficulties, the Jane Byrne Interchange has celebrated some major milestones; most recently, the opening of two major bridges – Monroe Street and Van Buren Street. These two openings, along with a few more, were an excellent way to kick off the next wave of construction that will begin soon.



MONROE STREET BRIDGE OPENING

The Monroe Street Bridge reopened in July of 2019. The new bridge includes new sidewalks on both sides of the street, two lanes in each direction, and improvements to drainage and lighting.

Construction to rebuild Monroe Street Bridge began in Winter 2018 and approximately a year and a half to have the structure up and running again. However, there are still a few items that are still under development including lighting and modifications below the bridge, since the new structure was designed to create space for future proposed roadways, including entrance and exit ramps.



**VAN BUREN
STREET BRIDGE**
JULY 2019

VAN BUREN STREET BRIDGE OPENING

The Van Buren Street Bridge reopened in July of 2019 after closing in the fall of 2017. The bridge was replaced in its entirety and includes features such as wider sidewalks, additional lanes, and more space beneath the bridge to encompass further improvements within the interchange.

As part of the Van Buren Street Bridge project, the Quincy Obelisk, a Greektown monument, will be relocated to Elysian Plaza located at the southeast corner of Van Buren Street and Halsted Street. The entire plaza is rebuilt and will become a desirable community location along with new graphic elements welcoming pedestrians and drivers to Greektown.

Good News. More Openings.

In addition to the recent bridge openings, additional projects will reach completion and more access will be provided this month. These include the second lane on the North-to-West Flyover Ramp, the Morgan Street exit ramp, and Westbound I-290.

**Improved
traffic
flow.**



NORTH-TO-WEST RAMP - 2ND LANE

Reconstruction of the North-to-West flyover ramp was completed in the Fall of 2016, however, the second lane on the ramp remained closed due to construction within the interchange. The second ramp lane will open on Saturday, September 7, weather permitting.



NORTH-TO-EAST RAMP

The North-to-East ramp will reopen to traffic on Saturday, September 7, weather permitting. The ramp was closed in the Spring of 2014 for reconstruction, and although the bridge was completed on time, the ramp remained closed until work along I-290 was completed.

Features of the newly construction North-to-East flyover ramp include one lane with shoulders on each side, new signage, and improved lighting.



WESTBOUND I-290

Construction began in October 2017 to reconstruct Westbound I-290. On Tuesday, September 10, weather permitting, Westbound I-290 will fully reopen to traffic. Improvements include full pavement and barrier wall reconstruction.



MORGAN STREET EXIT RAMP

Reconstruction of Morgan Street Bridge was completed in the Fall of 2014, but the exit ramp has remained closed due to other improvements made within the interchange. The Morgan Street exit ramp will open to traffic on Saturday, September 7, weather permitting.

ANTICIPATED TO BE COMPLETED BY 2022

As the end of 2019 approaches, and as several projects reach completion, the third and final stage of construction will begin. Currently the Jane Byrne Interchange Reconstruction Project is on task to meet the anticipated completion date, which is slated for 2022.

Once completed, the Jane Byrne Interchange will improve mobility and traffic operations, reduce congestion, and enhance the interchange aesthetics.

CONSTRUCTION
STAGE 1

Cross Road Bridges

CONSTRUCTION
STAGE 2

I-290/Ida B. Wells Drive
(Congress Parkway)

CONSTRUCTION
STAGE 3

I-90/94

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